United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry | 180 Canfield Street Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

H52

File Code: 3400
Date: July 16, 2003

Mr. Kevin Thorpe
USDA Agricultural Research Service
Beltsville Agricultural Research Center-East
B-402, BARC-EAST
Beltsville, MD 20705

Dear Kevin:

On June 16, 2003, I conducted an aerial detection survey for gypsy moth-caused tree defoliation at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. Approximately 6.9 acres of moderate defoliation (31-60%) were detected on site, none of which was located within the treatment areas. An additional 186 acres of moderate defoliation were detected in the vicinity of BARC. The defoliation along with the 2003 gypsy moth treatment blocks are depicted in Figures 1-2. The defoliation was not caused by gypsy moth but was caused by fall cankerworm, *Alsophila pometaria.*

We will be conducting a gypsy moth egg mass survey at BARC this fall. I will coordinate this activity with you.

Please contact me at (304) 285-1555 if you have any questions regarding this aerial survey letter.

Sincerely,

Rodney L Whiteman

RODNEY L. WHITEMAN
Forester
Forest Health Protection

cc: Ralph Webb, BARC
Robert Tichenor, MDA
Sally Hughes, MDA
Noel Schneeberger, AO

RLW/blm